

## SHE'D SHOOT COMRADE JOE HILLSTROM!

Toledo, Ohio.—There's a slight but agile little woman in Toledo who is not afraid to shoot a man dead. She is Mrs. Josephine Bates, 35, secretary of the Toledo Industrial Workers of the World.

Mrs. Bates has been hiking into the country regularly for the last two weeks with her rifle and instructor for target practice. She boasts hitting the bull's eye in three out of five shots. She's hoping there'll be an opportunity to prove her marksmanship on a man's heart. Not with cupid's bow and arrow, but a live .32 caliber.

Joe Hill (Hillstrom), I. W. W. poet and song writer, has been convicted of murder and sentenced to be shot in Salt Lake City, Utah, at sunrise on Nov. 19. The I. W. W. say Hill is a victim of capitalist conspiracy; that he has not had a fair trial and that his guilt has not been established. Therefore Toledo local 86, I. W. W., believes that if he must be shot it is better that he be killed by friends.

The state of Utah will employ five men to shoot Hill. One of the five will aim a gun which is loaded with blank cartridges. None of the five will know whose gun carries the blank.

Each marksman is to receive \$50 to shoot Hill and one blank insures them all a free conscience and the unalloyed enjoyment of the money.

Lots were drawn at the I. W. W. meeting and five men, with Mrs. Bates as alternate, were selected to go to Salt Lake City and ask the state of Utah to pay them \$50 apiece to shoot Joe Hill. Ernest Smith, Rodney Mehling, James Callahan, Jack Lever and Fred Cooney are the five.



The men will "hobo" their way west to save the \$250 for the "revolution." They will ask for elimination of blank cartridges and request that every gun be loaded to kill.

"If Hill is to die what difference does the pulling of a trigger make to the operator," said Mrs. Bates. "Let his blood be upon the capitalist class of Utah and its political henchmen."

Mrs. Bates will not ride the "bumpers," because it would be necessary to discard female garb to avoid legal difficulty.